

Youth Conservation Corp Program Summer 2006

Applications for five Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) positions will be accepted at Kenai National Wildlife Refuge from March 20 to April 28, 2006. High school students 15 to 18 years of age are eligible to apply.

Applications may be submitted by mail or in person.

Mail:

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge
P. O. Box 2139
Soldotna, AK 99669

In Person:

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge
Ski Hill Rd
Soldotna, AK 99669

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Mon. - Fri.)
10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.)

Selections are made through a random selection process, equally split between male/female. The pay rate will be \$7.75 per hour. The period of employment is June 12 to August 4 (8 weeks). Once enrollees are selected, they must be able to work the full 8-week period. **Selected applicants will be notified by phone by May 5th.** When all positions are filled, any applicant who is not selected will be notified by letter.

Commonly Asked Questions about the YCC Program

What kind of work does YCC do?

YCC enrollees work as a team to accomplish outdoor projects on the refuge including trail maintenance and rehabilitation, campground maintenance, litter pick-up, and special projects. Enrollees will participate in environmental education on a weekly basis.

What must enrollees provide for their work?

Frontcountry Projects:

- Rain gear
- Blue or black jeans in good repair (no holes, frayed seams, etc.)
- Day Pack
- Sack lunch for each day
- Two 1-quart water bottles with water for each work day

Backcountry Projects: In addition to items listed under frontcountry projects, the following items are needed for overnight “spike” camp work projects.

- Backpack that can, comfortably, carry 40 lbs.
- Sleeping bag rated to 30 degrees F.
- Sleeping pad (closed cell foam)

What gear does the refuge provide for the YCC enrollees?

Frontcountry:

- Leather work gloves
- 6” – 8” high leather work boots, brown or black in color
- Work caps
- Personal safety equipment
- Refuge uniform shirts

Backcountry: In addition to items listed under frontcountry projects, the refuge provides the following gear items for overnight “spike” camps.

- Tents
- Camp stoves and cook kits
- Food for all meals on the “spike” (except for the first day sack lunch)

What training do YCC leaders have?

Leaders are trained in first aid, CPR, hand tools, chainsaws, water hazards and bear safety. They have experience in working with youth on outdoor field projects. They also have experience in teaching environmental education topics.

What training will youth receive in the YCC program?

Youth will receive first aid, CPR, hand tools, water hazards, and bear safety training. They will receive daily safety briefings before beginning each workday. They will receive instruction in environmental education topics.

What are the special requirements of the program?

Enrollees must be at least 15 years of age and no older than 19 years of age during the period of employment, June 12 to August 4.

Enrollees must be able to work the entire eight weeks.

Enrollees will wear the refuge uniform in a neat, clean manner. Due to safety considerations, no short sleeve shirts, shorts, or sandals are permitted.

Enrollees must have housing in the community.

Enrollees must be prepared to work outdoors on rainy days.

Enrollees must have transportation on a daily basis to and from the refuge headquarters on Ski Hill Road in Soldotna.

Enrollees are **only** allowed to use hand tools. Only adult leaders are authorized to operate power tools such as chainsaws.

Youth must be able to swim 100 yards unassisted. They must be in good health and physically fit. A health certificate will be required for enrollment in the program.

Electronic equipment (such as walkmans or Gameboys) is not permitted for use during the workday.

<p>No tobaccos, in any form, alcoholic beverages, or non-prescription drugs are permitted during YCC work projects, “spike” camp, or environmental education activities.</p>

If youth interested in the program or their parents have any questions, please have them call the refuge at 262-7021 and ask for Brenda Nichol, Candace Ward or Bill Kent.